

Who is AHH?

The mission of the Alderson Hospitality House is to provide support for those incarcerated at the Alderson Federal Prison Camp, their families and friends by providing temporary lodging, meals, transportation, emotional support and education.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paul Loos	Sam Kasley
Kim Shrewsberry	Bobbi Loos
Gloria Martin	Tod Hanger
William Strange	Nancy Burris
Richard Lohmeyer	Judy Lucas

AHH STAFF

Kathleen DeRouen, co-director
Brian DeRouen, co-director
Emelia Gleber, staff
Daniel, volunteer

FLIGHT INFORMATION



Raleigh County Memorial

Beckley, WV
www.flybeckley.com
Greenbrier Valley
Lewisburg, WV
www.gvairport.com

AMTRAK INFORMATION



www.amtrak.com

Amtrak stops in Alderson, WV

ONLY Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays

From Chicago, eastbound: Train #50

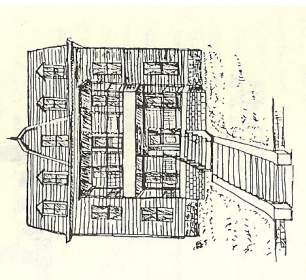
From New York, westbound: Train #51

Non-Profit Org.
Permit No. 579
Alderson, WV
24910

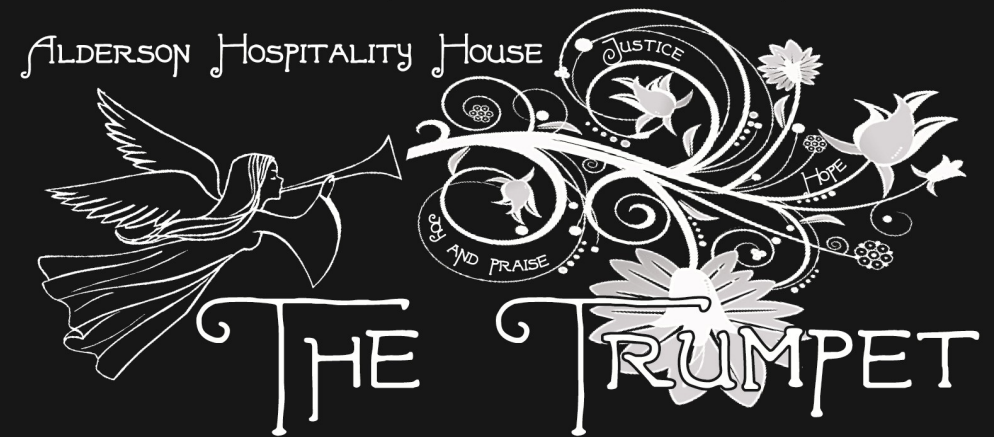
If you would like to be added or removed, please contact us!

Alderson Hospitality House

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WELCOME, EMELIA!

By EMELIA GLEBER

My name is Emelia Gleber and I am the very excited new staff member at Alderson Hospitality House. I grew up in the suburbs of Chicago and graduated from Loyola University Chicago May of 2015. After graduation, I spent just over a year outside Knoxville, Tennessee, and Appalachia quickly stole my heart. After a few months back in the Midwest, the flat land was starting to get to me, and when this position came across my radar, I couldn't imagine passing up the chance to head back to the mountains.

I am currently falling in love with Alderson and all of the amazing people I have met in the several weeks I've been here so far. I have been settling into life at the House, finding the rhythm of cleaning and cooking (I actually like making beds...who knew...) and enjoying meeting so many new people. I don't think I will ever forget my first official grand tour of the



house, following Vitale up and down the stairs as he pointed out and modeled the comfiest chairs and made sure I knew how awesome the play room is. I am still working on becoming his best friend, but in the meantime I've met some cute donkeys who seem pretty happy to be on the receiving end of my hugs. The guests have been just as welcoming as the DeRouens, and I love the community the House has created.

After some wrong turns on windy roads, I'm starting to figure out my way around and can now successfully pick up Micah and Vitale from school, go grocery shopping, and generally make my way back to the house no matter how turned around I get. I even made the trek to Beckley and back to cheer on Kathleen at a roller derby

bout. No one should ask me anything about the rules because I am still as foggy as I was heading into the game.

I am looking forward to the year ahead, and am so happy to be here. 🐾

HOUSE NOTES

By KATHLEEN

The holidays were a lot of fun this year, as usual. We had a huge turkey dinner for Thanksgiving and Christmas, and the desserts barely fit on the counter there were so many for both holidays. Kayla outdid herself on the pies and cookies this year. The kids (and a few adults, too) enjoyed our annual gingerbread house decorating, and most of them ate more candy than they put on their house.

Since then, it has been an unusual winter here at the Hospitality House. Usually things slow down after Christmas because of weather or threat of snow, but this year the weather has been relatively nice and people continue to fill the house week after week.

We've had to say goodbye to some familiar faces this winter, including Kayla, whom we miss a lot. However, new guests and new staff have filled the holes that they have left.

Daniel, volunteer, and Emilia, staff member, joined us this winter. They're both won-

derful additions to the Hospitality House. They bring with them new ideas, new skills, and new insight to the running of the house.

For those of you who have visited the house in these last few months, you have probably met Nancy. Nancy's house was flooded the same day ours was, and she had been staying in one of the rooms at AHH. She became a wonderful addition to our house, helping out where she can. I find her to be especially helpful while prepping and cleaning up from dinner. She will be greatly missed as she has just moved back into her own home; however, she can't get away from us that easily. We have recruited her as a new board member. She will bring a great perspective to the group having lived and worked in the house for a time.

We enjoy and appreciate all of our board members for what they bring to AHH. Our board is always changing, but it continues to be a group of diverse and caring people. If you are ever interested, you can find a current list of board members on the back of this newsletter. 🙏



PAUL CONTINUED

over. This was the case in 2016 as well, but the amazing thing about last year (and why it makes us think of Paul and his generosity) is that in addition to paying all the bills, the Hospitality House was able to build a brand new home for us and our boys while still finishing the year in the black!

Paul Hickey was born in Gassaway, WV which is at the geographical center of the state which he crisscrossed countless times in service and ministry to incarcerated men and woman. During his career in ministry, he served as Chaplain at the Robert F. Kennedy Youth Center (now FCI Morgantown), the Moundsville State Penitentiary, the Huttonsville Correctional Center, and FPC Alderson.

It did not matter if the person in front of him was a prisoner in a maximum-security prison or a college student at St. Theresa's parish in Morgantown, Paul was first and foremost a friend. While serving as Chaplain at the R.F.K. Youth Center, Paul brought his friends together by starting a program called Life School. Every Friday night members of the Morgantown community including many college students would spend their evening with the residents of the center. Relationships were

built and lives were changed.

Alan Zuccari was a college student at WVU when he first met Paul Hickey. Alan would drive a VW bus around campus picking up other students on Friday evenings for Life School. He remembers those nights at the youth center fondly and credits Paul Hickey for the example of how a life of faith should be lived. While talking about our new home and the man it is named in honor of, Alan



kept repeating, "Paul is the most Christ centered man I have ever known." Alan also said, "He loved Johnny Cash, loved trains, and loved every man and woman he met. But had a special heart for those who

were incarcerated."

We hope that Paul would be pleased by what the Hospitality House has grown to be 40 years into its existence. We hope that from our new home we can continue to serve the Hospitality House and the community, which we are proud and humbled to be a part of. We hope that in our work, in our guests, in our Friday night conversations over dinner, and in the greeting which each new family receives when they walk through our front door, the spirit and work of Father Paul Hickey will continue. 🙏

POETRY
CORNER*Isabella Van Wagener*

Born in virtual obscurity
a slave who bore five slaves
to Thomas the slave,
adopted a free name
that reflected the challenge
of 19th Century Black Woman.
Filled with the spirit and Truth
about equality for women and
the brotherhood of man,
she spoke for freedom and liberation,
she wrote of freedom and liberation,
an illiterate who dictated her
Narrative of Sojourner Truth.
Crowds paid to listen
but only crowds who had money:
those who disagreed, who howled,
threw curses, scorn and ridicule,
hissing like snakes and geese.
And she would tell them all
"what time of night it is".
Preaching the Word of God, yes,
but doing the Work of God, too:
supplies for Civil War volunteers
integrating streetcars,
counseling and resettling former slaves.
And in 1864, a president recognized
and welcomed her to Washington, DC.

By: Dan Gladich

From a collection of poems inspired by
the women whose names adorn the
rooms of the Alderson Hospitality House.

Please share your artwork, thoughts and words of anguish, hope and joy. We'll consider any submissions for future publications, so please send us your stuff! 🌍

WELCOME, DANIEL! By DANIEL

I don't toss around the word "honored" lightly. But I'm truly honored to be working at the Alderson Hospitality House.

I became a staff member at AHH in early January 2017. It was a perfect place to land at a perfect time in my life.

Easily the question I get asked most often is "where are you from?" I've spent enough time in Appalachia to know how important home and sense of place are. Working with our guests, from all over the place, simply reinforces these things. I love looking at the map in our big entry hallway with pins stuck into where folks are coming from. (Pop quiz: anyone know the only U.S. state without a pin in it? Yep: just one!)

I've lived in many places, but the most recent place I'm coming from is Massachusetts.

There are many things I love about being at AHH: the people, the community, the mission, the town, the house itself. I love that I don't have any "regular" work day: I make beds, sort

PAUL'S HOUSE By BRIAN

From his photograph on the wall of the playroom which bares his name, Father Paul Hickey watches over the Alderson Hospitality House. It is right that his gaze and smile are there for our youngest guests to see, as with his life, he perfectly exemplified the spirit and mission of the House. Paul Hickey was an immensely generous man who gave all that he had and all that he was to all that he knew. For that reason the new AHH director's residence that our family moved into last week will be known as Paul's House.

While his presence can be felt in the day-to-day work of the Hospitality House, Paul Hickey's spirit most certainly was at work in the months since June

tools, wash dishes, cook food, repair compost bins, clean gutters, clean bathrooms, fix couches, dig through recycling bins, scrub wood stove doors, and pump up the basketball for guests to play with. I love working with Kathleen, Brian, and Emelia, and love that they support me as I'm writing this from a tent in a rainy cornfield in central Pennsylvania.

Early on in my time at the house, on one of my "days off", I was heading out to the garage to build a couple sawhorses. Kathleen made a point of saying I could (and should!) take my day off. I assured her that building sawhorses is recreational for me.

Some of my favorite times so far have been watching guests play in Meadows Park across the street on an unseasonably warm January day, talking with our guests, repurposing wood, and making veggie stock.

I'm so honored that I get to serve all of you in this wonderful place! 🌍



2016 when the flood waters came. Like most small non-profits these days, the Hospitality House exists just on the border of financial sustainability. Due to the generosity of our guests and many friends, we are able to fundraise enough each year to keep food on the table and the electricity on; but once the bills are paid, there is rarely more than a few dollars left

(Continued on page 7)

RECIPES FROM THE KITCHEN

Turkey Noodle Soup

Turkey Carcass

2 Onions, chopped

4 Carrots, chopped

4 Celery Stalks, chopped

4 Cloves of Garlic

*Save the scraps

Thyme, Sage, Salt and Pepper to taste

Leftover Gravy, if available

Any other chopped vegetable you enjoy. (I've thrown in tomatoes, peas, broccoli, leeks when I've had them lying around)

Noodles (I prefer Egg Noodles and use half the bag)

After Holidays like Thanksgiving and Christmas, I find myself with a big pot full of turkey bones and scrap meat. Instead of just tossing it straight away, I make this soup that my mom taught me how to make.

1. Place the bones, scrap meat, and the scraps from the vegetables you cut into a large pot and cover everything with water. Add salt. Set the pot to simmer for at least an hour. The longer you simmer the more flavor you will get into your stock.
2. Strain the liquid through a colander. Be sure to collect the stock in another pot; don't just let it go down the drain!
3. Once cooled a bit, pick through the bones for any good meat left.
4. Put the meat, veggies, gravy and spices into the pot with the liquid you just collected
5. Cook in a crock pot for at least 4 hours or on the stove for about 45 minutes
6. Taste and adjust seasoning
7. Put the noodles in. Crockpot: 1 hour before serving; Stovetop: 15 minutes before serving



Raise money for AHH without spending a dime. Every time you search the internet using goodsearch, you raise can raise money for the Hospitality House. Go to goodsearch.com to find out more.

Raise money for AHH while buying your groceries. Go to krogercommunityrewards.com and register your Kroger Plus card to automatically give a percentage of every sale to AHH. Our number is 85722. Use it when you sign up today!



Like Us on Facebook! You can follow us and keep up with what is going on at AHH throughout the year.

THE ANNUAL FUND

Usually the first few months of the year are quieter at the Hospitality House. Many guests don't want to brave the snowy roads and the wintery temps that call for hot chocolate. This year has been different as Spring seems to have arrived in early February.

Our rooms have been full and rather than hot cocoa, lemonade has been the drink of choice. It has been great to have so many voices and lots of energy in the house, though, the increase in numbers has led to earlier fundraising needs. More guests mean more grocery shopping, loads of laun-

dry, and tanks of gas, which we are able to purchase thanks to the generosity of our friends.

Please help us to keep up the work of this wonderful house by pitching in to fill our pitcher in 2017!

Please make all checks payable to **Alderson Hospitality House** or donate online at www.aldersonhospitalityhouse.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

WISH LIST

Everyday Items

Coffee (Not decaf)
Postage Stamps
Ink Pens
Dish Soap
Dryer Sheets
Toilet Paper
Hand Soap Refills
Batteries
Light Bulbs
Fresh Produce
Pasta
Pasta Sauce
Lemonade/Iced Tea Mix
Kroger/Kmart Gift Cards

Willing to spend a bit more?

Extra Long Table Cloths
Bath Towels to match the rooms
Rain Barrel
Dehydrator

For the big spenders out there:

New or gently used living room recliners
Economy Car and/or Minivan

